

Make a Sun Map

Planting by the Sun and Moon - Lesson 2



For the Classroom

- Group structure - small groups
- Location - outside in the schoolyard
- Approximate time - Day 1: 40 min, Day 2: 10 min, 3 times throughout day, Day 3: 20 min

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.G.A.1. Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume.
- S6E1d. Explain the motion of objects in the day/night sky in terms of relative position.
- S6E2c. Relate the tilt of the earth to the distribution of sunlight throughout the year and its effect on climate.

Materials

- Tape measures (1 per small group)
- Pencils (1 per small group)
- Black marker (1 per small group)
- Clipboards (1 per small group)
- Graph paper (1 per small group)
- White copy paper (4 per small group)
- Yellow, light green, dark green, grey colored pencils (1 set per small group)

Reproducibles

- [Sun Map Examples](#) (1 per small group)

Directions

1. Day 1:

- In small groups, instruct children to work together to measure and draw a map of your outdoor space (using a tape measure, with black marker on graph paper - setting an appropriate scale).
- Make four copies of each small group's map and instruct the groups to label them:
 - Morning / Noon / Afternoon / Final Sun Map

2. Day 2: On a sunny day, visit outdoor space during each of the given times (morning, noon, afternoon) and color in the areas on the corresponding map where you see shade.

3. Day 3:

- Then, analyze and color-code your three maps to determine the sun exposure in different areas of the outdoor space. View the "Sun Map Examples" for the key and colors.
- Explain that different plants need different amounts of sun daily and it is listed on the seed packets. Give students a chance to explore a variety of seed packets to determine how much sun they need. Allow students to determine where to plant turnips in their garden.

Lesson Created by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics